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Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 PRS-01 /063 W
---------- 088286
R 231320Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9135
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON
CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 16220

EO 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: MILI, US, KE
SUBJ: KENYA FLY-BY

REF (A) STATE 285071, (B) NAIROBI 13024,
(C) DAO CAIRO R 221620Z NOV 76 (NOTAL),

1. AS DEPT IS AWARE, CINCUSNAVEUR HAS PROPOSED THAT USS GUAM MAKE PORT CALL AT ALEXANDRIA AFTER SHE RETURNS FROM HER MISSION TO KENYA. CALL WOULD TAKE PLACE FROM DEC 23 TO 26. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE ALREADY HAD FOUR NAVAL VISITS THIS YEAR, I BELIEVE SUCH VISIT WOULD BE USEFUL AND WOULD ALLOW PERSONNEL TO BE ASHORE FOR CHRISTMAS. ACCORDINGLY, I SPOKE WITH GAMASY LAST SUNDAY AND OBTAINED HIS APPROVAL FOR AN "INFORMAL" VISIT DURING THE PERIOD INDICATED (REF C NOTAL). WE WILL SUBMIT THE REQUEST TO MFA FOR FORMAL DIP CLEARANCE AS SOON AS ALUSNA OBTAINS NECESSARY DATA RE THE GUAM.

2. ALTHOUGH I TOLD GAMASY THAT THE USS GUAM WILL BE COMING FROM KENYA, I DID NOT GO INTO DETAILS ABOUT HER KENYA MISSION. IN LIGHT CONCERNS EXPRESSED REFTEL B ABOUT A LIKELY STRONGLY ADVERSE REACTION BY UGANDA PRES AMIN, WE CANNOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT GOE MAY BECOME POL-ITICALLY SENSITIVE AND DECLINE THE VISIT OR ASK THAT WE NOT SEND THE USS GUAM AT THIS TIME. WHATEVER TOE MAY THINK
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OF AMIN PERSONALLY, GOE'S RELATIONS WITH UGANDA ARE GOOD AND

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PROBABLY BETTER THAN WITH KENYA. DAO'S 0181500Z NOV 76 TO CINCUSNAVEUR (NOTAL) SUGGESTED THAT I MIGHT WITHDRAW MY SUPPORT FOR THE VISIT IF GOE POLITICAL COMPLICATIONS ARISE. THAT STATMENT REQUIRES CLARIFICATION. I HAVE NO INTENTION OF WITHDRAWING MY SUPPORT FOR THE VISIT EVEN IF POLITICAL COMPLICATIONS ARISE, BUT THE POINT IS THAT GOE -- AT FONMIN LEVEL -- MAY FEEL COMPELLTED TO OVERRULE GAMASY AND PREFER THE USS GUAM NOT TO COME AT THIS TIME.

3. SINCE WE ARE NOT INDICATING PURPOSE OF USS GUAM'S MISSION TO KENYA, GOE WILL FIRST HEAR ABOUT IT WHEN MISSION IS BEING CONDUCTED. ITS INTEREST WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON AMIN'S REACTION. EVEN IF AMIN REACTS ADVERSELY, MY HOPE IS THAT THE ROUGHLY TEN DAY PERIOD WHICH WILL ELAPSE BETWEEN THE TIME THE USS GUAM LEAVES KENYA WATERS AND GETS TO ALEXANDRIA WILL CAUSE WHATEVER AFRICAN FLAP MAY DEVELOP TO ABATE AND THAT EGYPTIANS WILL HAVE FORGOTTEN ABOUT IT. IN THE MEANTIME, I BELIEVE WE SHOULD PLAY THE PROPOSED VISIT IN ROUTINE FASHION. EILTS

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